

### **Lessons Learned from I/M Program Evaluation**

presentation to the NRC Committee on Effectiveness of Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance Programs February 15, 2000

by

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#### Outline

- 1. Evaluation using In-Program v. On-Road data
- 2. Results of evaluation of AZ IM240 program
- 3. Improvements to make evaluation easier
  - —data improvements
  - —program improvements
- 4. General issues for I/M evaluation
- 5. Summary of evaluation of CA ASM program
- 6. Using remote sensing data in program evaluation

#### Evaluation Using In-Program v. On-Road Emissions Data

#### •In-Program

- —compare final to initial test result for individual vehicles
  - accounts only for vehicles reporting for testing
  - emissions measured under specific conditions
  - Fast Pass complicates analysis
  - passing vehicles tested only one time
- —track vehicles over multiple I/M cycles
- Remote Sensing (and Roadside Pullover testing)
  - —compare emissions up to 3 months before I/M test with up to 3 months after I/M test
    - sample of all on-road vehicles, tested under varied loads
    - can compare measurements made under loads similar to those of the I/M test
  - analyze trend in emissions as vehicles get closer to, and further from, I/M test
  - —identify vehicles that never receive a passing I/M test that continue to be driven in I/M area

### Passing Vehicles Tested Only Once by Program

- Vehicle emissions are variable, for many reasons (Wenzel et al, 2000; Bishop et al, 1996; Knepper et al, 1993)
- Some high emitters have intermittent malfunctions, which cause them to fail one day but pass next (flippers)
  - —some passing flippers would fail if retested
  - —some failing flippers pass retest with no repairs being made
- •I/M cutpoints are arbitrary
  - —some marginally passing vehicles would fail if retested
  - —some marginally failing vehicles pass retest with no repair
- Result: In-Program data over-estimate actual emissions reduction

### 2. Analysis of Arizona IM240 Program: Overview

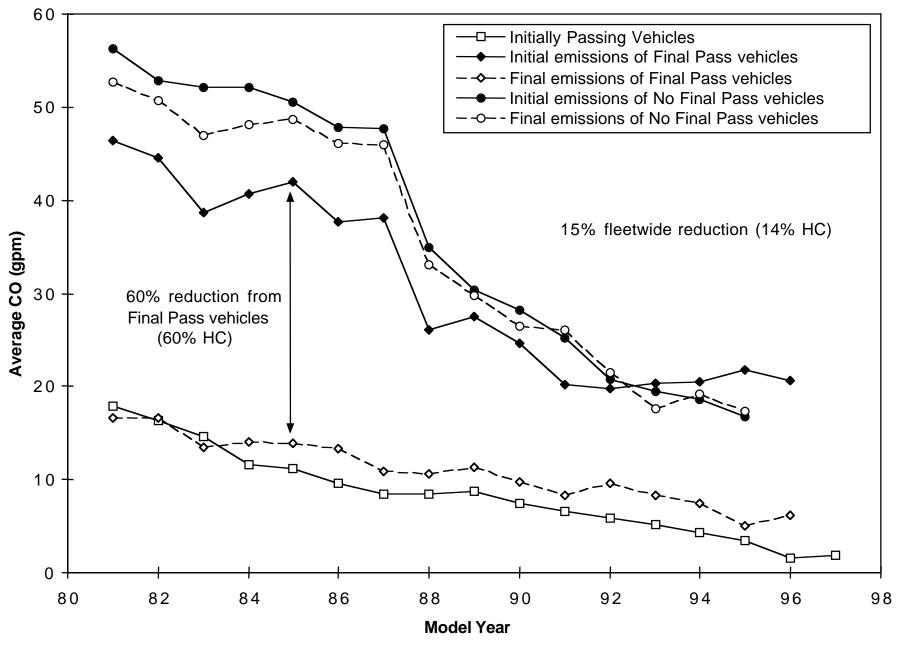
- Many vehicles take months to pass, or never pass, I/M test
- Many of these vehicles still driving in I/M area
- On average, repairs made to vehicles last about two years
- •Large reduction in emissions immediately prior to initial I/M test
- Different analysis methods needed to understand different aspects of I/M programs

# Analysis of Arizona IM240 Program: In-Program Data

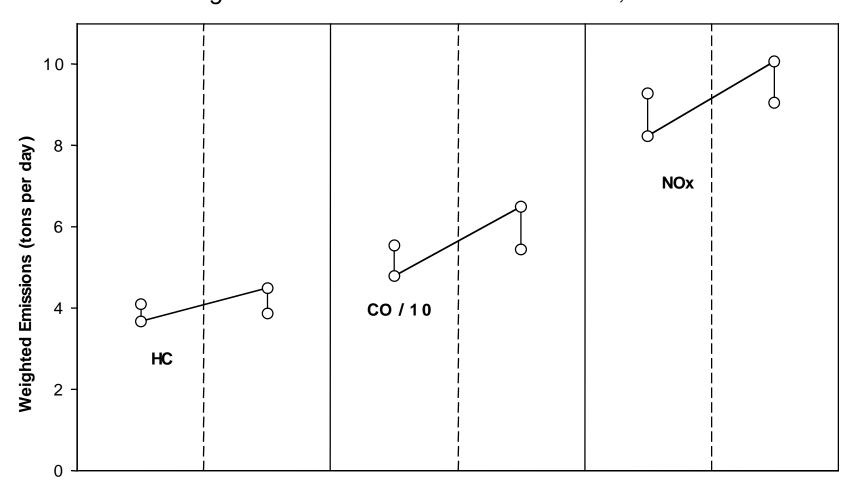
- 1996-97 IM240 data compared with RSD data
  - —15% / 14% / 7% IM240 reduction in HC/CO/NOx
  - —HC, CO emissions of Final Pass vehicles reduced 60%
  - —final emissions of Final Pass vehicles higher than emissions of Initially Passing vehicles
  - —33% of initial fails never receive passing test (4% waiver rate)
- •Individual vehicles tracked over 2 I/M cycles (1995 and 1997)
  - —37% of Final Pass vehicles in 1995 fail initial 1997 test (44% for MY81, 14% for MY94)
  - —40% of repeat failures fail for same combination of pollutants
  - —40% of vehicles tested in 1995 do not report for testing in 1997; 50% of vehicles tested in 1997 not tested in 1995 (half of these were out of state or exempted in 1995)
  - —1995-only and 1997-only I/M fleets have higher initial emissions by MY than fleet tested in both years
  - —Fleet emissions 1 year after final I/M test = final emissions

### Average CO gpm by MY and I/M Result

1996-97 Arizona IM240



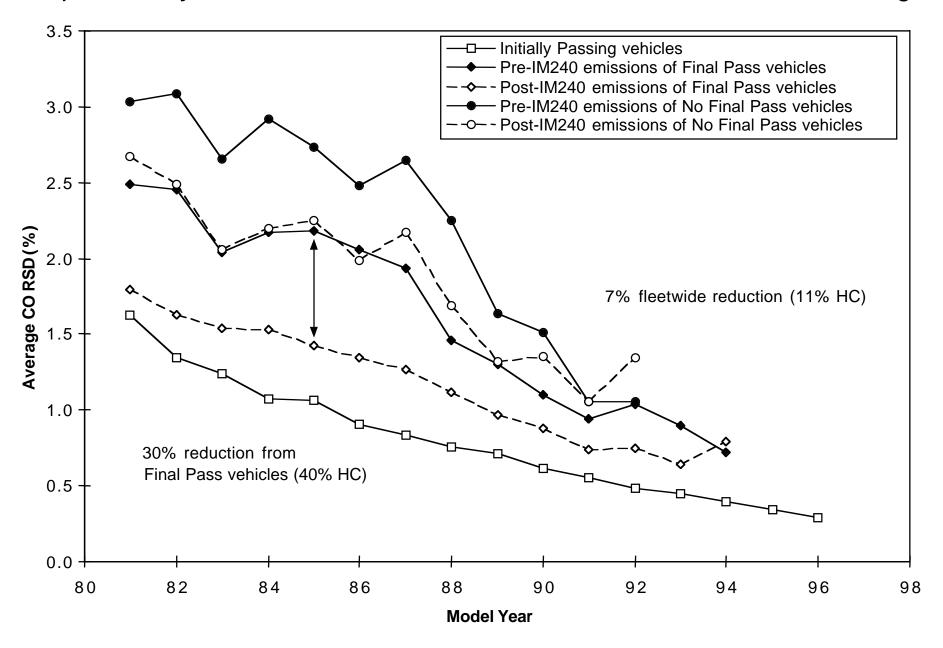
Fleet Emissions over Two I/M Cycles
Passenger Cars tested in both 1995 and 1997, Arizona IM240



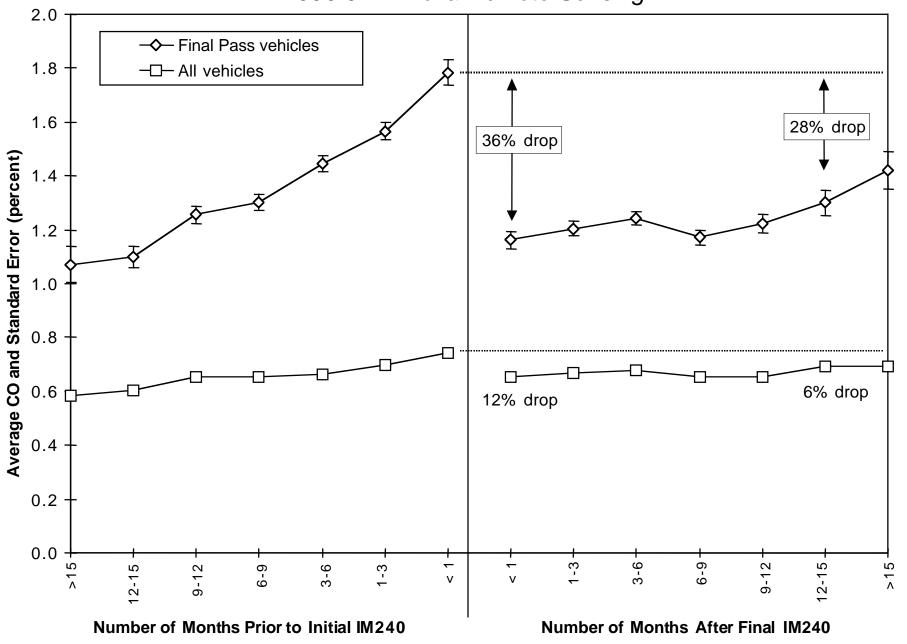
# Analysis of Arizona IM240 Program: Remote Sensing Data

- •1996-97 IM240 data compared with RSD data
  - —1996-97 RSD indicate only 11% / 7% reduction in HC/CO
  - —HC, CO emissions of Final Pass vehicles reduced only 30%
  - —difference due to
    - vehicles measured under different loads
    - vehicles measured up to 3 months after final I/M test
- Average RSD emissions as vehicles get closer to, and further from, I/M test
  - —program effectiveness decreases over time
  - —fleet emissions reduced by 12% 3 weeks before initial I/M test
- RSD data used to identify No Final Pass vehicles still in area

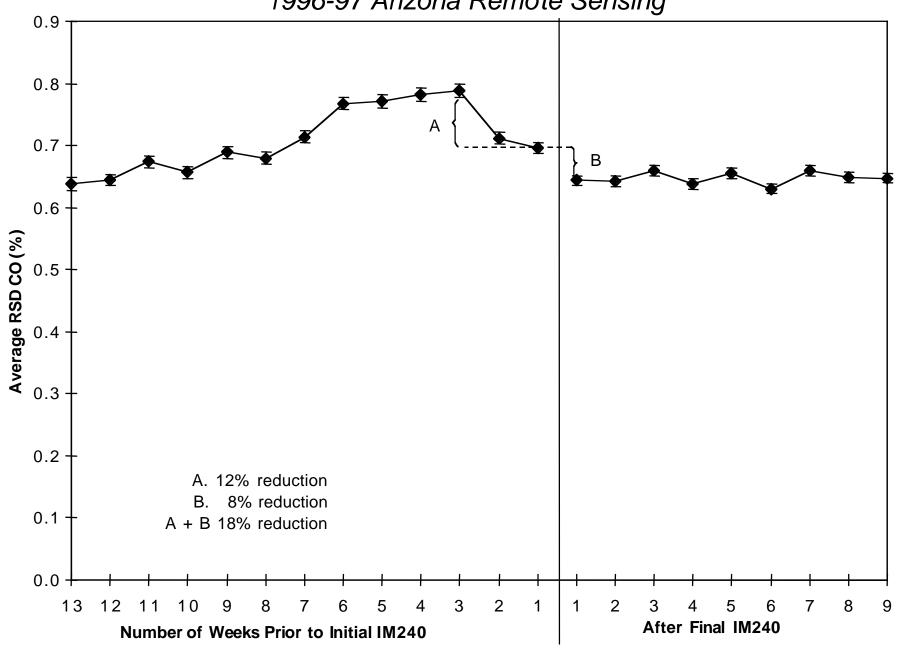
# Average RSD CO by MY and I/M Result Up to 90 days before and after I/M test, 1996-97 Arizona Remote Sensing



## Average CO RSD Emissions by Time Period 1996-97 Arizona Remote Sensing



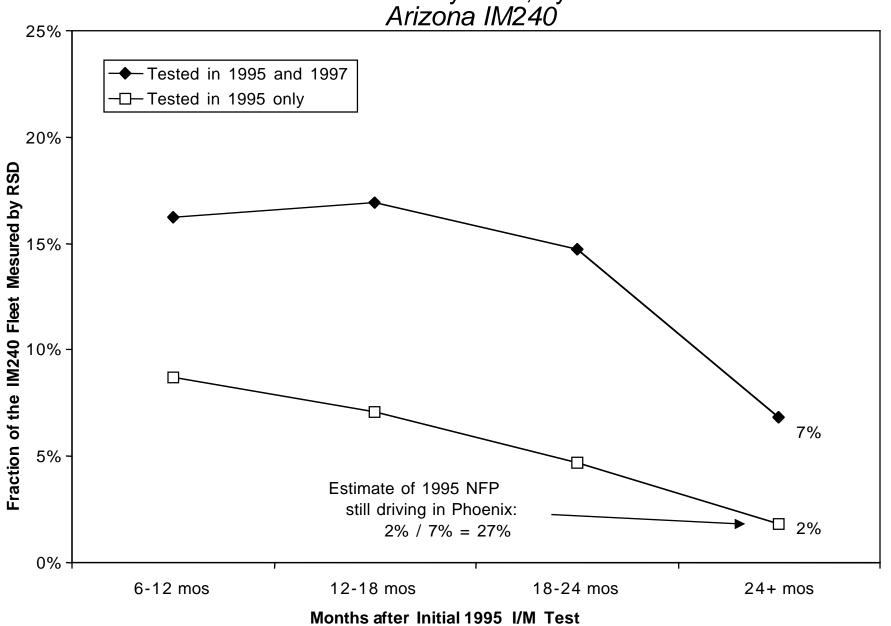
## Average CO RSD Emissions by Time Period 1996-97 Arizona Remote Sensing



#### Half of No Final Pass Vehicles Remain in I/M Area

- •39% of vehicles failing initial test in 1995 never received a passing test (through March 1996)
- •30% of these reported for testing in 1997
- Of remaining 70%, estimated 27% still driving in area
  - —7% of 1995 No Final Pass vehicles tested in 1997 seen by RSD more than 2 years after 1995 test
  - —2% of 1995 No Final Pass vehicles not tested in 1997 seen by RSD more than 2 years after 1995 test
  - —ratio of 2% to 7% = 27%
- Estimated 50% of all 1995 No Final Pass vehicles driven in I/M area
  - -30% reporting for testing, 27% of remainder seen by RSD  $(30\% + (70\% \times 27\%) = 50\%)$

# Fraction of the 1995 No Final Pass Vehicles Measured by RSD, by Time Arizona IM240



### Assumptions about No Final Pass Vehicles Affects Evaluation Results

- Has big impact on absolute reduction, small impact on percent reduction
  - —assume that program induces No Final Pass vehicles to leave area
  - —removing relatively small numbers of vehicles, with high emissions, can have big impact on inventory
- Assume all No Final Pass vehicles continue to drive in area
  - —tons per day reduced 11% / 13% / 7%
- Assume all No Final Pass vehicles permanently leave area
  - —tons per day reduced 21% / 24% / 13%

### Evaluation of Arizona IM240 Program: Summary

- Many vehicles take months to pass, or never pass, I/M test; many of these vehicles still driving in I/M area. Better enforcement needed.
- On average, repairs made to vehicles last about two years. Better repairs needed, or removal of vehicles that repeatedly fail.
- Large reduction in emissions immediately prior to initial I/M test; typically not counted as benefit of program.
- Different analysis methods needed to understand different aspects of I/M programs.

#### 3. Data Improvements to Make Evaluation Easier

- Identify initial I/M test
  - —CA: initial test not identified; have to search in previous months for previous failing test
  - —AZ: if no pass after 5 months, next test coded initial
- Record VIN and license accurately and consistently
- Record odometer accurately and consistently
- Identify vehicles that receive waiver
- Relatively large (2%) number of full tests random sample of vehicles, to compare with fast pass tests
- Sample of back-to-back full tests to test effect of regression to mean

### Program Improvements to Make Evaluation Easier

- I/M cycle should be based on last digit in VIN (AZ), not MY (CO, WI)
- Vehicles should always remain on same I/M cycle, even if sold
- License plates should remain with vehicle (AZ), not original owner (CO), when sold
- AZ is not the "gold standard"
  - —fast fails after 90 seconds
  - —does not allow second full test for marginal failures
  - —CO or WI may be more appropriate?

#### 4. General Evaluation Issues

- •What is baseline?
  - —no I/M case
  - —previous I/M program
  - —reference "gold standard" program
- •How to measure effectiveness: absolute (average gpm/tons) or relative (%)?
- •How to compare emissions in different units (concentrations v. mass)?
  - —correlations between small samples of vehicles tested under both methods
  - —convert %/ppm to gram per gallon; convert gpg to gram per mile, using mile per gallon assumptions
  - —convert %/ppm and gram per mile to gram per gallon

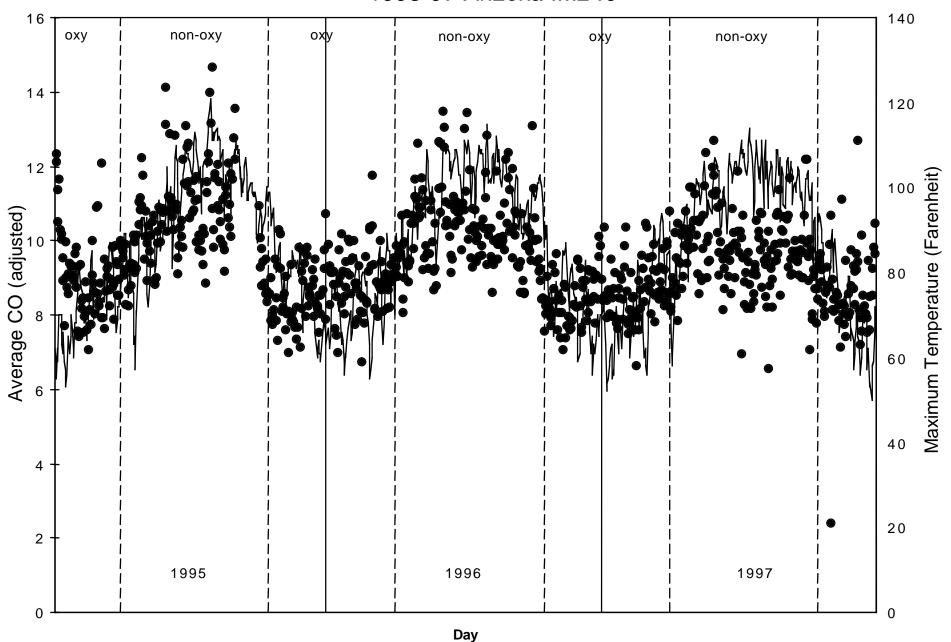
### General Evaluation Issues (cont.)

- •How to calculate emission reduction?
  - —immediately after final test
  - —6 months later
  - —12 months later
- •How to treat No Final Pass vehicles?
  - default assumption should be that all NFP remain in area; make states demonstrate otherwise (RSD or video camera surveys)
- •Weight results by vehicle or VMT?
  - —I/M programs treat all vehicles the same, regardless of use
  - —SIP inventories weight vehicles by assumed annual VMT

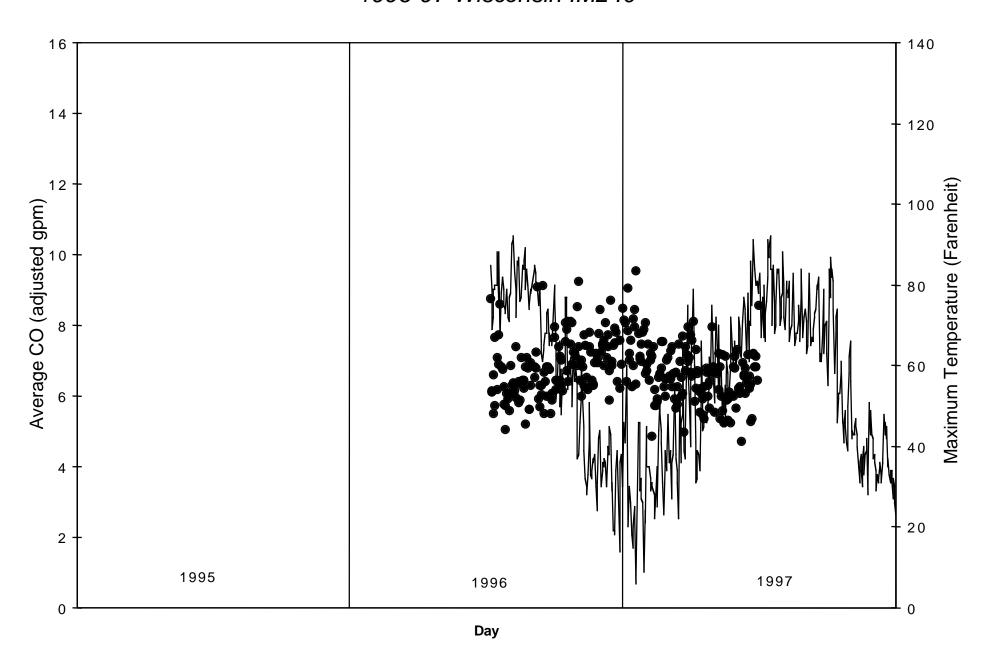
#### Seasonal Variation in Emissions

- Large seasonal variation in emissions
- AZ and CO IM240
  - —HC and CO higher in summer than winter
  - —NO higher in winter than summer
- AZ RSD; AZ idle; CA ASM (Sacramento)
  - —HC and CO higher in summer than winter
- •WI IM240; MN idle
  - —HC, CO and NO higher in winter than summer
- Possible causes: combination of temperature, fuel composition changes (oxygenates), and inadequate preconditioning (causing canister purge during test)
- Implications
  - —different cutpoints should be applied by season
  - —evaluation based on only one or two months of data may be biased

### Daily Average CO (adjusted), Initial Tests of Passenger Cars 1995-97 Arizona IM240



### Daily Average CO (adjusted), Initial Tests of Passenger Cars 1996-97 Wisconsin IM240



### 5. CA Enhanced Program

- Enhanced program began in June 98
  - —decentralized biennial ASM testing at Test & Repair stations
  - —second set of cutpoints for Gross Polluters
  - —official pre-test reported but not used for Gross Polluter determination
  - —2% random sample directed to Test Only stations
  - —13% sample of suspected high emitters directed to Test Only stations (using High Emitter Profile)
  - —Gold Shield Guaranteed Repair stations identified by BAR
  - —Gross Polluters can be certified only by Test Only or certain Gold Shield stations
- Basic and Change of Ownership Only programs continue in some basins
  - —decentralized two-speed idle

### Evaluation of Enhanced California Program: Data

- •CA Enhanced program began in June 98
- Three sets of emissions data
  - —Jan 97 to Nov 99 program data (18 mos. enhanced; 10 million vehicles)
  - —Feb 97 to Oct 99 random roadside pullover tests (30,000 enhanced vehicles)
  - —Jul 99 and Oct/Nov 99 remote sensing measurements (80,000 enhanced vehicles)
- Two "snapshots" of vehicle registration data
  - —Apr 98 and Oct 98 (40 million vehicles)

### Evaluation of Enhanced California Program: Analysis

- Comparison of initial and final test results in program data
  - —effect of pretests on "initial" emissions
  - —effect of phasing in NO cutpoints
  - —by I/M station type (Test and Repair, Test Only, Gold Shield)
  - —by air basin
  - —eventually by program type (Basic v. Enhanced)
- Step Method analysis of Roadside and RSD data (Tested under Enhanced v. Not Tested under Enhanced)
- Analysis of new program changes using Roadside data
  - —different MY exemptions
  - —different cutpoints

### 6. Different Remote Sensing Evaluation Methods

- Reference Method (Georgia Tech)
  - —compare to reference no-I/M case (other urban area)
  - —make sure reference area fleet similar to subject area fleet
- Step Method (U Denver)
  - —compare tested and untested fleets midway through new I/M program
  - —few differences between two fleets
  - —measures only incremental benefit of changes to program
- Comprehensive Method (LBNL)
  - —Step Method, with many more measurements (millions vs. 50k)
  - —track average emissions as vehicles get closer to, and further from, I/M test